

REMARKS

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated March 18, 2005, applicant would like to remind the Examiner that the present application is a reissue of 08/917,665, filed August 21, 1997, U.S. Patent No. 6,007,408. The new rules for amendments under 37 C.F.R. 1.121 do not apply in a reissue application. 37 C.F.R. 1.121(i) states that 37 C.F.R. 1.173 applies in reissue applications.

Therefore, the amendment filed on March 1, 2004 was compliant. Accordingly, the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment should be withdrawn. All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a timely Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:

Postcard

Fee Transmittal Sheet (+ copy)

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